(a) whether it is a fact that recently Indians are facing racial discrimination in the countries like Britain and America;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far by Government to protect Indians from racial discrimination in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. No such report has been received.

Measures to check corruption

†2375. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken to check corruption in bureaucracy;

(b) whether any new legislation would be enacted to empower public to register a direct FIR against corrupt persons;

(c) if not, whether the present legislation is strong enough to tackle the corruption;

(d) whether Government is contemplating to repeal the existing law under which prior permission is required to take criminal action against senior officers for corruption charges;

(e) whether Government believes that funds routed through bureaucracy for the progress of the country are not reaching the public; and

(f) if so, the efforts being made to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Government is fully committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption" and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include-

(i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;

(ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;

(iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;

(iv) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;

(v) Issue of instructions by the CVC asking the organizations to adopt Integrity Pact in major Government procurement activities; similar instructions have been issued by the Central Government on 16th June 2009 advising the State Governments to adopt Integrity Pact in major procurements;

(vi) India is amongst the countries who have signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

(vii) Introduction of e-Government and simplification of procedures and systems;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(viii) Issue of Citizen Charters.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Government is concerned about leakages during the implementation of development Programmes and Schemes. In pursuance with its policy on "Zero Tolerance to Corruption", the Government is committed to providing transparent and accountable governance.

Measures introduced towards Governance

2376. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether specific measures have been introduced towards 'Governance' in view of comments of Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions during August 2009 *viz.* 'there is a perception that the Indian Bureaucracy is inefficient and corrupt, if we are not able to provide for inclusive growth, it may lead to conflicts';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) bureaucracy being the primary instrument of governance whether such remarks would not demoralize these timetested 'agents of change'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Reforms in Governance is an ongoing process. Recently, the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) has come out with a number of recommendations to reform the governance structure which are under active consideration of Government. The details can be viewed at the website ***www.darpg.nic.in.***

(c) No, Sir.

Appointment of bureaucrats in institutions

2377. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the trend which is catching up to appoint bureaucrats as Vice-Chancellors and other institutions which requires subject experts and professionals;

(b) whether inspite of opposition the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, the National Book Trust and Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University (Central University) are all headed by either IAS or IPS officers;

(c) if so, whether Government is helpless in stopping such non-deserving candidates for posts which need experts; and

(d) in what manner Government thinks of going ahead in this regard?